

1. Evening OPD Services Launched in Ayushman Arogya Mandirs

- Health authorities launched **evening OPD services at about 669 Ayushman Arogya Mandirs** in urban areas.
- The initiative aims to help **working patients access consultations after regular working hours** and reduce crowding during daytime OPDs.

2. Indian Pharmaceutical Market Shows Strong Growth

- India's **pharmaceutical market grew around 11% in February 2026**.
- Growth was driven mainly by **anti-diabetic, cardiac and anti-infective medicines**, reflecting the increasing burden of chronic diseases in the country.

3. International Women's Day Focus on Women's Health

- On **International Women's Day (8 March)**, global and regional health agencies highlighted persistent challenges in **maternal health, adolescent pregnancy, and access to reproductive health services** across South-East Asia including India.

4. NEET-UG 2026 Registration Window Closes

- The **National Testing Agency (NTA)** closed registrations for **NEET-UG 2026** on March 8.
- The entrance exam for **MBBS, BDS, and other medical courses** is scheduled for **3 May 2026**, with a correction window for application details expected next.

5. Debate on Reforming Postgraduate Medical Seat Allocation

- Experts are discussing reforms in **PG medical seat allocation**, arguing that **marks alone may not be sufficient** and suggesting broader evaluation criteria such as clinical exposure and aptitude.

6. Concerns Over Faulty Injections and Illegal Medical Practices

- Reports highlighted incidents involving **faulty injections and unauthorized medical practices**, sparking calls for stronger enforcement of **drug safety regulations and medical practice standards** in India.